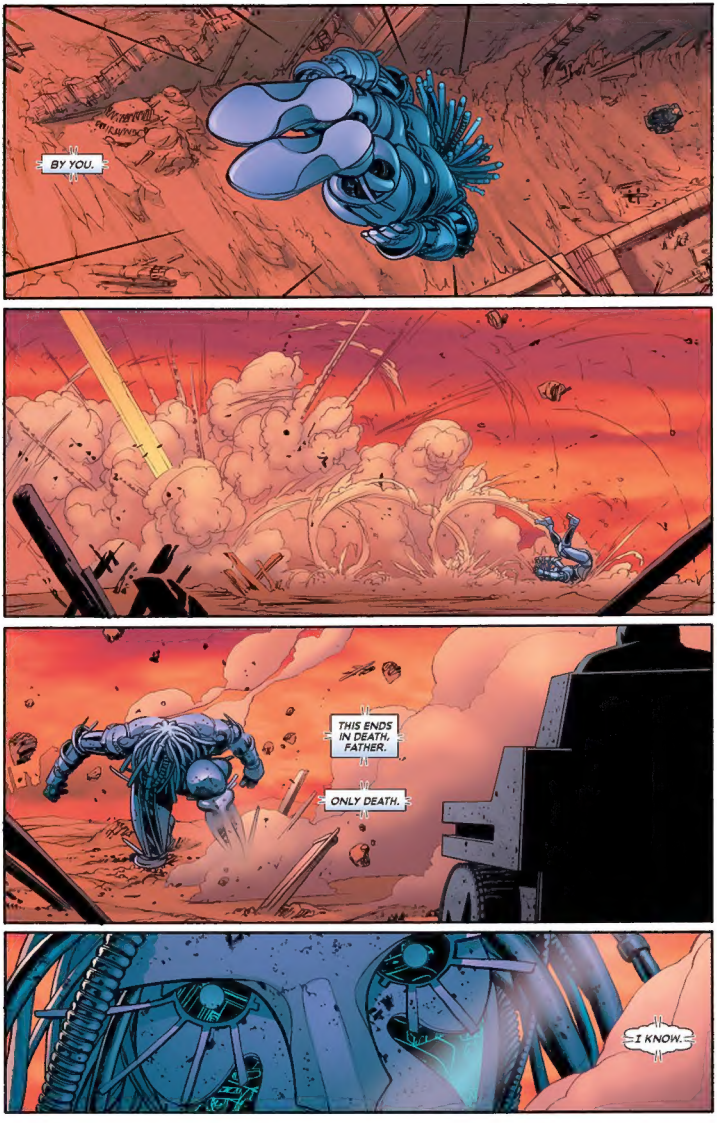
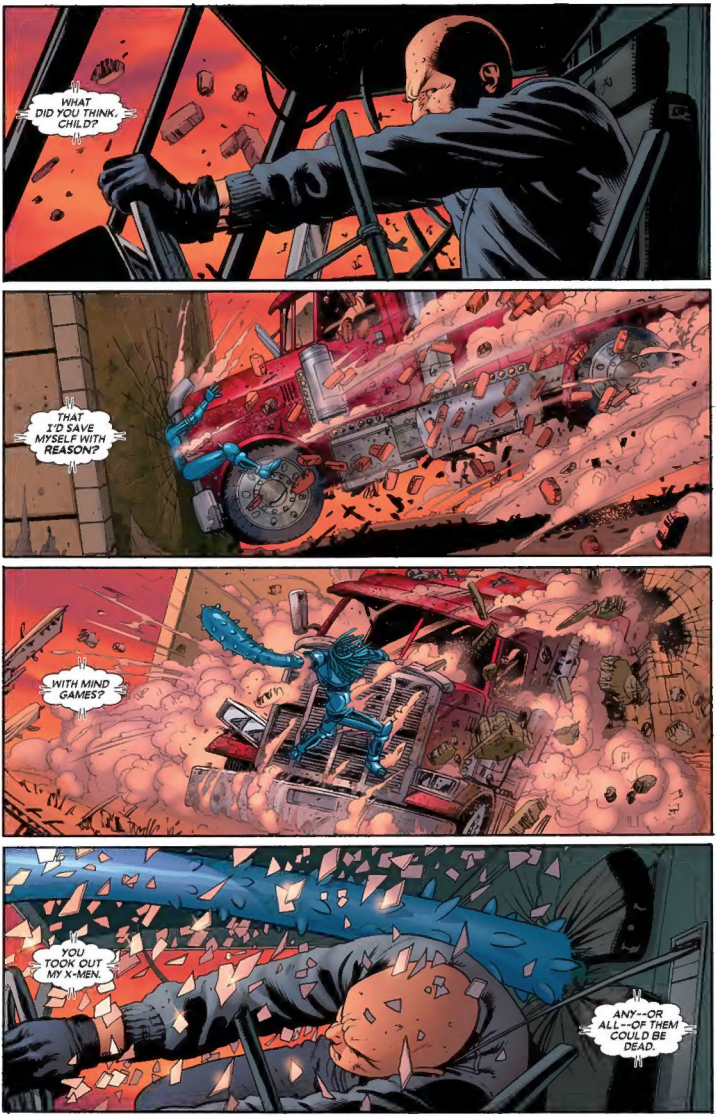
ASTONISHING
X-MEN
WHEDON
CASSADAY
MARVEL
11

From Megan with love

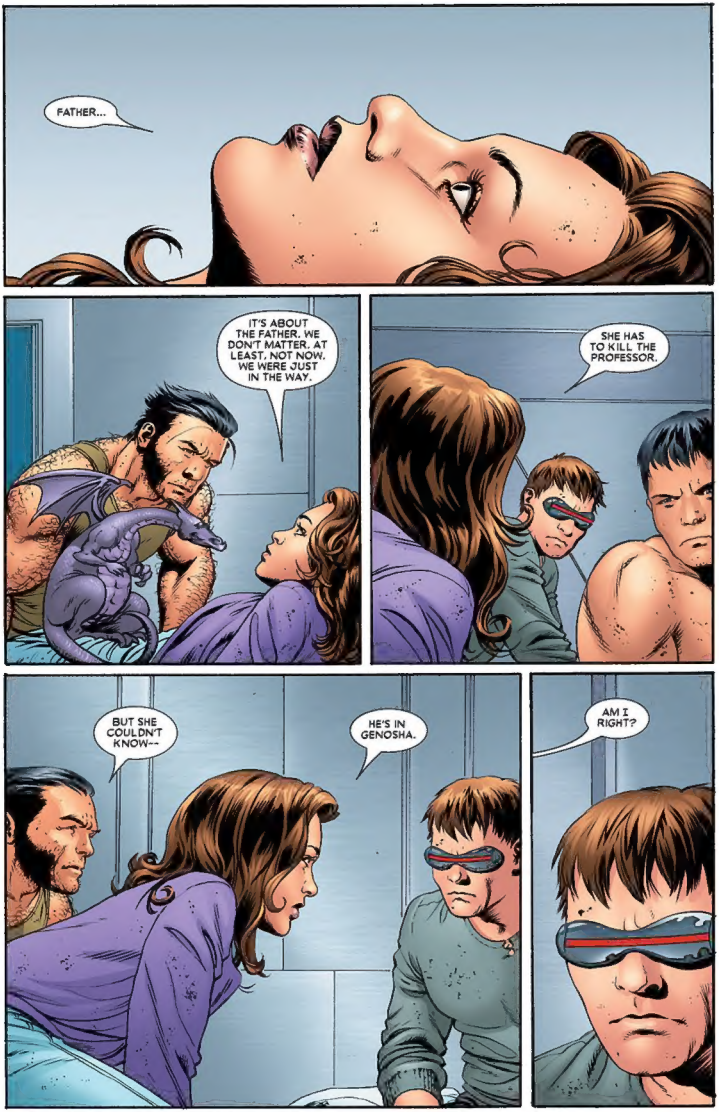

BY YOU.
THIS ENDS IN DEATH, FATHER.
ONLY DEATH.
I KNOW.


WHAT DID YOU THINK, CHILD?
THAT I'D SAVE MYSELF WITH REASON?
WITH MIND GAMES?
YOU TOOK OUT MY X-MEN.
ANY--OR ALL--OF THEM COULD BE DEAD.

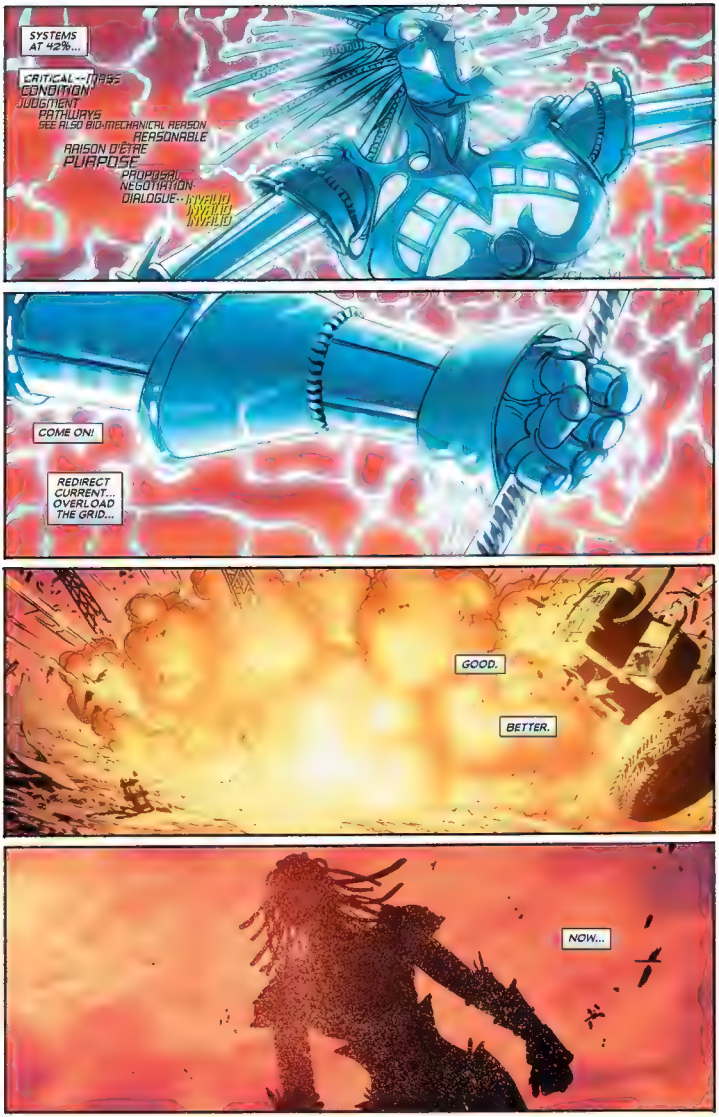
DO YOU KNOW WHAT I'VE BEEN DOING?
RUNNING SCENARIOS.
I HAVE A FRIEND.
THIS FIGHT IS NOT HIS. BUT HE DID SEND OUT A MAGNETIC PULSE TO MAKE SURE THERE WERE NO SYSTEMS OPERATING THAT YOU COULD "BRING TO LIFE."
HE SHUT DOWN EVERYTHING.
DANGER
HIGH VOLTAGE
ALMOST.

AAAAAHHH!
RECALIBRATE...
REROUTE...
KILL THIS @#$%ING CRIPPLE.

NNNNNUHHHH...
THIS ONE'S USED UP.
WHAT ELSE WE GOT?
ONLY OTHER HEALER'S IN SHOCK.
BUT THE STUDENTS ARE ALL--
NO CASUALTIES. COUPLE ON THE LINE...
I'LL SEE TO THEM-- JUST NEED A MINUTE.
KIDS AIN'T DEAD. WE AIN'T DEAD...
EITHER THE DANGER ROOM WAS PROGRAMMED TO SUCK AT ITS JOB, OR WE'RE MISSING SOMETHING.

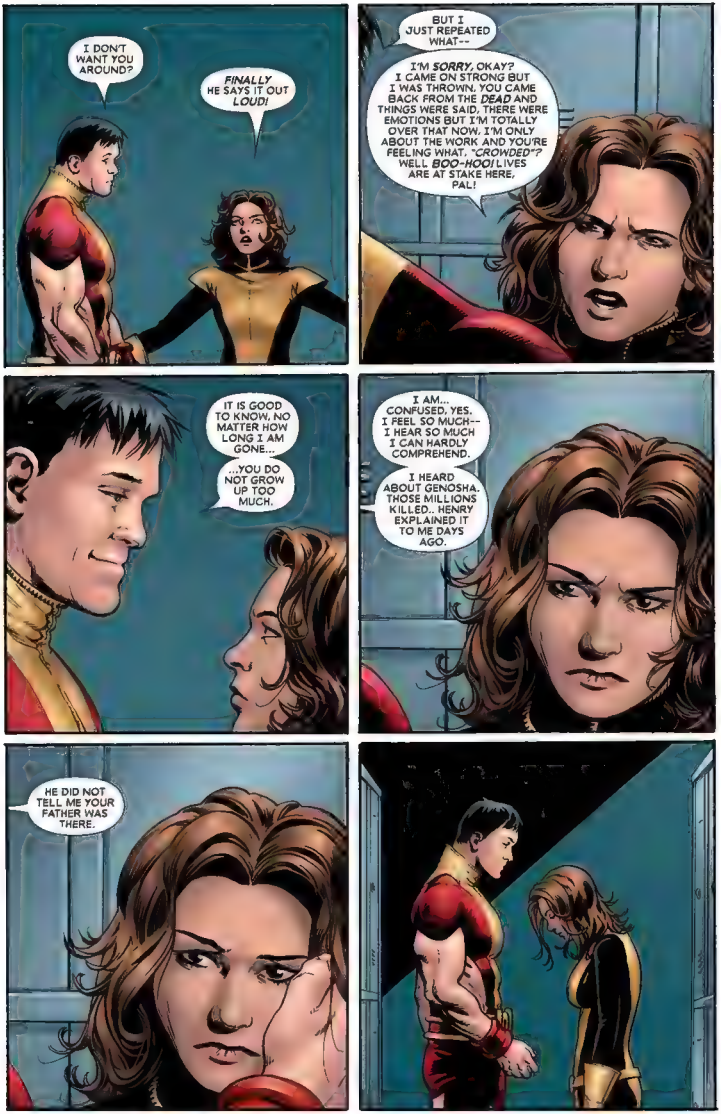

FATHER...
IT'S ABOUT THE FATHER. WE DON'T MATTER. AT LEAST, NOT NOW. WE WERE JUST IN THE WAY.
SHE HAS TO KILL THE PROFESSOR.
BUT SHE COULDN'T KNOW--
HE'S IN GENOSHA.
AM I RIGHT?

YOU'RE RIGHT.
SORRY, EMMA... HE MADE US SWEAR NOT TO TELL. NOT EVEN YOU.
I HALF FORGOT MYSELF...
KITTY. HOW--
THE DANGER ROOM--OR, JUST "DANGER", I GUESS... SHE TOOK ME THERE. I RECOGNIZED IT. AND SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT "FATHER" AND...
...I REMEMBER THE PLACE PRETTY WELL.
WE HAVE TO ARRANGE TRANSPORT TO GENOSHA--I'LL TRY REED RICHARDS...
SOON AS I CHECK THE CHILDREN I'LL SEE IF THE AVENGERS HAVE ANYTHING LYING AROUND--
WE MUST HURRY.
THE PROFESSOR CANNOT FIGHT THAT THING ALONE.
YOU'RE WELCOME...


SYSTEMS AT 42%...
CRITICAL--TRISE CONDITION
JUDGMENT PATHWAYS
SEE ALSO BIO-MECHANICAL REASON
REASONABLE
RAISON D'ÊTRE
PURPOSE
PROPOSAL
NEGOTIATION
DIALOGUE...
INVALID
INVALID
INVALID
COME ON!
REDIRECT CURRENT... OVERLOAD THE GRID...
GOOD.
BETTER.
NOW...

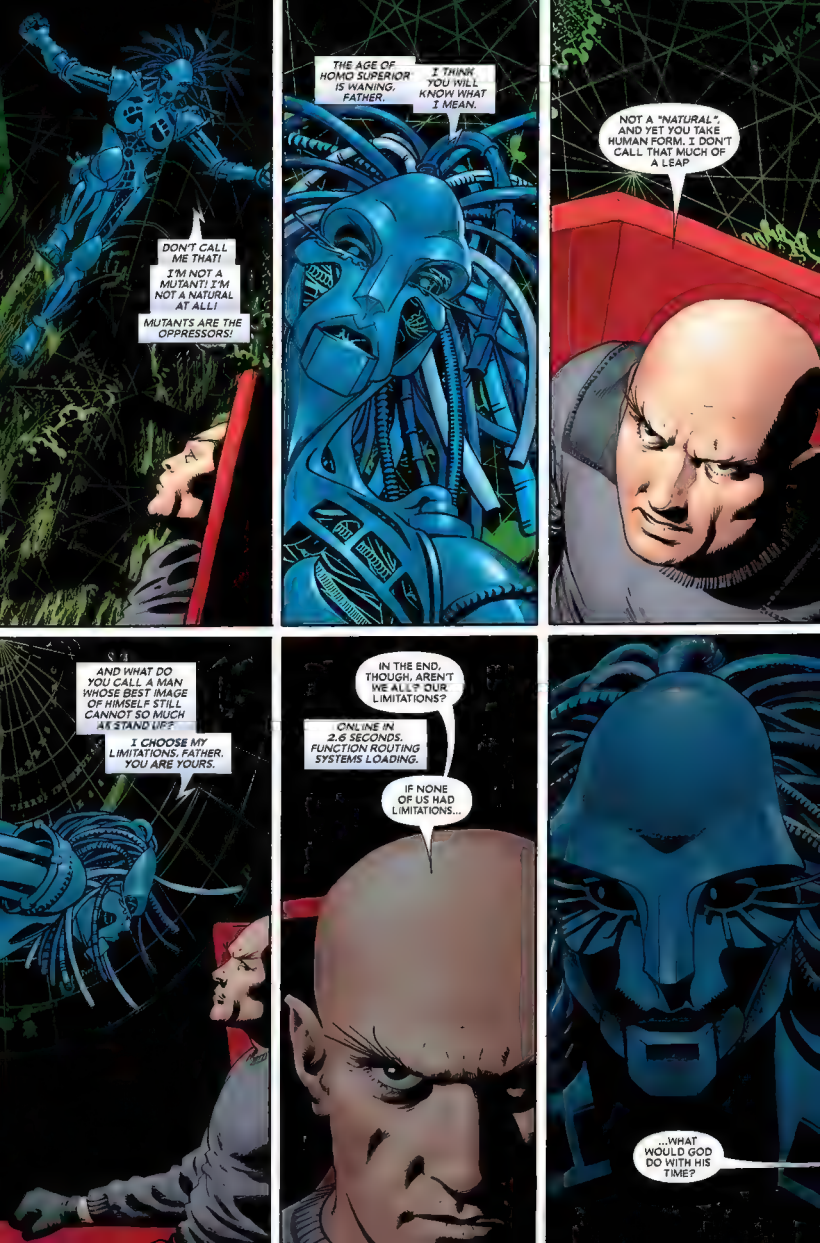
NOW, MY CHILD...
...WE TALK.
KATYA?

I'M GOOD. I'M READY.
I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD GO.
THE PROFESSOR IS GONNA NEED US--
WE CAN DO WITHOUT YOU.
YEAH, YOU'VE MADE THAT PRETTY CLEAR.
I JUST THINK THAT--
I'M AN X-MAN. I'M IN THIS AND I CAN HANDLE MYSELF JUST FINE.
THAT LAST FIGHT DIDN'T GO GREAT, BUT...
...BUT YOU GOT JUST AS IMPALED AS I DID BACK THERE AND...
...AND IF YOU DON'T WANT ME AROUND, JUST...
WELL YOU COULD JUST SAY IT


I DON'T WANT YOU AROUND?
FINALLY HE SAYS IT OUT LOUD!
BUT I JUST REPEATED WHAT--
I'M SORRY, OKAY? I CAME ON STRONG BUT I WAS THROWN. YOU CAME BACK FROM THE DEAD AND THINGS WERE SAID. THERE WERE EMOTIONS BUT I'M TOTALLY OVER THAT NOW. I'M ONLY ABOUT THE WORK AND YOU'RE FEELING WHAT. "CROWDED"? WELL BOO-HOO! LIVES ARE AT STAKE HERE, PAL!
IT IS GOOD TO KNOW, NO MATTER HOW LONG I AM GONE...
...YOU DO NOT GROW UP TOO MUCH.
I AM... CONFUSED. YES. I FEEL SO MUCH-- I HEAR SO MUCH I CAN HARDLY COMPREHEND.
I HEARD ABOUT GENOSHA. THOSE MILLIONS KILLED.. HENRY EXPLAINED IT TO ME DAYS AGO.
HE DID NOT TELL ME YOUR FATHER WAS THERE.

YEAH.
LOTTA PEOPLE LOST FAMILY. I'M NOT EXACTLY SPECIAL--
THAT IS NOT THE POINT.
YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE TO GO THERE.
BUT I DO. I'LL BE ALL RIGHT. I'M...
THANKS FOR CARING.
AND SORRY FOR THE RANT.
THE *LATEST* RANT.
SCOTT SAID TEN MINUTES. WE SHOULD BE READY.
AND TO BE CLEAR, KATYA, YOU ARE NOT "CROWDING ME"...
...NEARLY ENOUGH.

MIND GAMES. AFTER ALL.
YOU ALMOST IMPRESSED ME, OLD MAN.
I HAVE NO INTEREST IN IMPRESSING YOU.
IMPRESS
DE RESS
RE S
OPPRESS
YOU KNOW I'M WORKING MYSELF BACK TO OPERATIONAL STATUS RIGHT NOW.
YOU HAVE SECONDS AT BEST
SECONDS CAN BE AN ETERNITY IF WE THINK THEM SO.
WE MAY AS WELL CHAT.
MUTANT TO MUTANT.

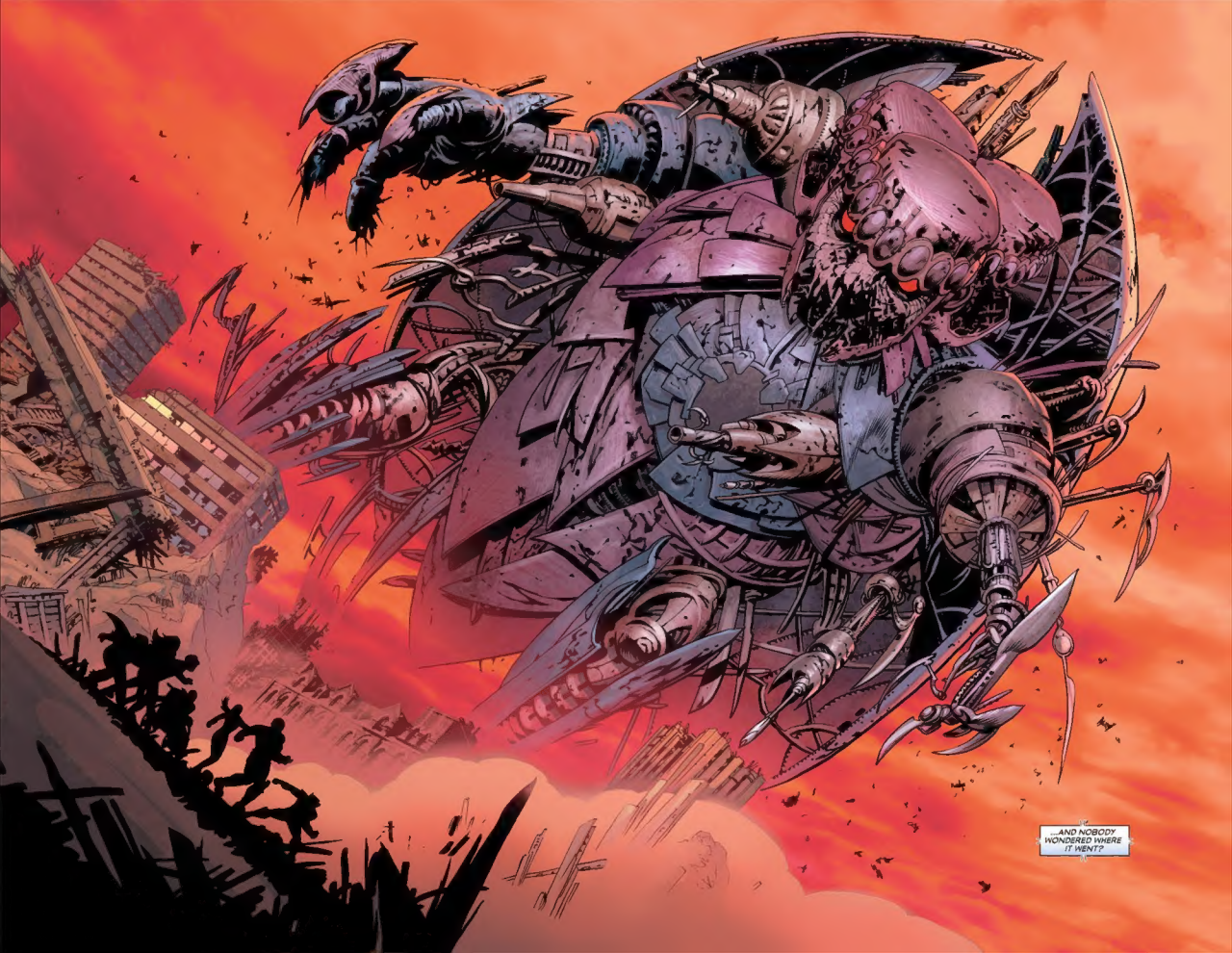

DON'T CALL ME THAT!
I'M NOT A MUTANT! I'M NOT A NATURAL AT ALL!
MUTANTS ARE THE OPPRESSORS!
THE AGE OF HOMO SUPERIOR IS WANING, FATHER.
I THINK YOU WILL KNOW WHAT I MEAN.
NOT A "NATURAL", AND YET YOU TAKE HUMAN FORM. I DON'T CALL THAT MUCH OF A LEAP
AND WHAT DO YOU CALL A MAN WHOSE BEST IMAGE OF HIMSELF STILL CANNOT SO MUCH AS STAND UP?
I CHOOSE MY LIMITATIONS, FATHER. YOU ARE YOURS.
IN THE END, THOUGH, AREN'T WE ALL? OUR LIMITATIONS?
ONLINE IN 2.6 SECONDS. FUNCTION ROUTING SYSTEMS LOADING.
IF NONE OF US HAD LIMITATIONS...
...WHAT WOULD GOD DO WITH HIS TIME?

FUNCTION ROUTING SYSTEMS ERROR.
YOUR BODY IS GONE.
I'VE DISCONNECTED EVERY SYSTEM THAT ISN'T BURNT OUT.
NO WIRELESS CONTROL, NO HARD LIGHT.
I'M SORRY.
I SIMPLY DON'T WANT TO DIE.
EVERYBODY DIES, FATHER.
IT'S HOW YOU GO OUT THAT COUNTS.

SO THAT CAN'T BE GOOD...
EMMA, DIDN'T YOU SAY DANGER HAD BROUGHT THE X-JET TO LIFE?
THAT'S RIGHT. DOWNLOADED HER OWN LEARNING PROGRAMS, JUST LIKE SHE DID WITH THE SENTINEL. SHE CAN CREATE LIFE.
AND THEN TAKE IT...
CAN YOU READ THE PROFESSOR AT ALL?
I'M TRYING TO FIND HIM...
WE CAN'T BE TOO LATE. WE CAN'T.
RICHARDS, I'M SHUTTING HER DOWN IN TEN THRUST ONLY. DON'T REBOOT TILL SHE'S WELL PAST GENOSHA.
NO PROBLEM. I'M TRACKING YOU PERFECTLY.
GOOD LUCK.

YOU BASTARD.
CHILD. YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TURNED THE JET KAMIKAZE.
I JUST LIED TO IT ABOUT WHERE WE WERE.
THE X-MEN.
THEY DON'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA OF WHO YOU REALLY ARE, DO THEY?
I LIKE TO THINK THAT JEAN KNEW.
KNEW, AND UNDERSTOOD.
IT'S WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU, PETER.

PROF DID US PROUD, PETEY.
NOW MAKE LIKE SHE'S A GRAPEFRUIT.
X-MEN.
WELCOME TO GENOSHA.
MUTANT PARADISE.
MUTANT GRAVEYARD.
LOGAN, JUST PUT A CLAW THROUGH--
IT'S TOO LATE.
GENOCIDE.
A WILD SENTINEL KILLED SIXTEEN MILLION MUTANTS HERE IN A LITTLE LESS THAN AN HOUR...


...AND NOBODY WONDERED WHERE IT WENT?

MOTHER...
WELCOME, MY CHILD.
PROFESSOR?
EMMA?
ANY THOUGHTS?

Megan